SERVICES TO FAMILY MEMBERS

A. Definition . Services to family members refers to services provided to members of the individuals family necessary to enable the applicant or eligible individual to achieve and employment outcome.

‰amily member means an individual who either (A) Is a relative or guardian of an applicant or eligible individual; or (B) Lives in the same household as an applicant or eligible individual and has a substantial interest in the well-being of that individual.+ (34 CFR 361.5(b)(23)) Substantial is defined as having a legal or lifetime commitment to the client.

B. Scope of Services . The agency may provide any service to a family member that it is legally able to provide to a client, as long as the purpose of the service is to assess the ability of the client to benefit from a program of vocational rehabilitation, prepare for, enter, and be successful in employment, or participate in a program of independent living services.

Excluded are programs designed just to prepare a family member to enter employment which will allow them to make money to support the disabled person.

C. Agency Expectations:

- 1. All services to family members must be part of an IPE for the client.
- 2. All services to family members must contribute directly to the vocational rehabilitation of the client.
- 3. The R-406 is used to determine the financial contribution required for these services.
- **D. Exceptions**: The following require an exception signed by the supervisor:

None

August, 2007





INTERPRETER AND NOTETAKER SERVICES

A. Definitions . Interpreter services mean those special communications services provided by persons qualified by training and experience to facilitate communication between VR personnel and persons unable to communicate verbally in English. This includes deaf and hard of hearing persons who communicate using signs and finger spelling, as well as lip reading, writing, gestures, pictures, and other methods. Also eligible for interpreter services are persons not fluent in the English language who could benefit from having any part of the process translated into their major language.

Notetaker services means providing a person to make written notes/summaries of orally presented material. The notes may be made from a live presentation, such as a classroom lecture on the job, or from material which has been taped.

B. Scope of Services . The agency makes these services available to clients in order that they may engage in all parts of the vocational rehabilitation or independent living program process.

C. Agency Expectations:

- 1. No needs assessment of financial participation is required when providing interpreters or notetakers in the VR program.
- 2. Both interpreters and notetakers require assessment of need in the IL program.
- 3. Interpreter fees are negotiated based on skill level and frequency of use.
- 4. Notetakers provided in a training setting fall under the funding limits currently being used for training.
- 5. Persons who are both deaf and blind will be referred to the lowa Department for the Blind.
- 6. Sign language interpreters are trained and licensed by the state.
- **D. Exceptions:** The following require an exception signed by the supervisor: None

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OTHER GOODS AND SERVICES

- **A. Definition:** Other goods and services are any thing which is legal and necessary to the completion of the clients IPE, or IL Services Plan.
- **B. Scope of Services:** Any good or service not mentioned or included in any other place in this manual.
- C. Agency Expectations:
 - 1. Land may not be purchased with VR dollars.
 - 2. No building may be erected with VR dollars.
 - 3. Services designed to decrease the need for future IL services can only be provided to IL clients.

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